

Media Release

Yavapai County Sheriff's Office

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Recent Incidents Overview

Search and Rescue, Bell Rock, Sedona -- On July 19, 2015, around 11:45 AM, YCSO Forest Patrol deputies were called to the south side of Bell Rock regarding a female in her 40's had fallen. As she and her husband were attempting to hike down from the trail she slipped, lost balance, and fell 20-25 feet over the edge of a cliff section on Bell Rock. During the fall, she struck her head. Her husband called out for help and nearby hikers called 911 to report the incident. EMS personnel from the Sedona Fire District arrived quickly to coordinate the rescue and were able to eventually locate the injured woman and stabilize her for transport. Fortunately, her injuries were not life threatening. YCSO deputies helped Fire personnel carry her to the trailhead to meet the ambulance and she was transported to Verde Valley Medical Center in Cottonwood for treatment.

YCSO would like to thank those alert hikers who made the initial call regarding the hiker's fall and continued to provide updates until the arrival of Sedona Fire rescue personnel. The exact cause of the fall is not clear as of this writing.



Top photo – Incident Site and Rescue
Bottom – Fire personnel transport injured hiker to ambulance

DUI - On July 19, 2015, at approximately 3AM, 47-year-old Wallace Youvella Jr., a resident of Navajo County, was arrested for 1 count of Aggravated DUI (F) and booked at the Camp Verde Detention Center. He has since been released on a \$1500 bond.

BACKGROUND – At 2:45 AM, deputies received information that the driver of a Nissan sedan was passed out behind the wheel and blocking traffic on the south I17 exit ramp for Cordes Junction. Upon arrival, deputies located the vehicle containing the driver and only occupant stopped in the middle of the off ramp. All the car windows were closed and the windshield wipers were on although no rain was present.



Youvella Jr.

A deputy knocked on the window but could not immediately wake the driver. The vehicle's transmission was in drive, but fortunately the vehicle was not moving. When the driver, identified as Wallace Youvella Jr. eventually woke, he pulled to the side of the road.

After several tries unlocking the car door, Youvella was successful and able to open the door. The deputy immediately detected the strong odor of an alcoholic beverage. Youvella had to be assisted because he was falling over trying to stand. He refused to attempt field sobriety tests and was arrested. No medical issues were apparent. A preliminary breath test result obtained at the jail returned with a .184 reading – more than twice the legal limit. Blood test results are pending.

YCSO continues to encourage notification by the public regarding any potential DUI drivers on our roadways. If this suspect had continued to drive, understanding the likelihood he would re-enter I17, the danger to other motorists on the roadway would have been extreme.

Citizens can contact the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office with information or questions at 928-771-3260 or the YCSO website:

www.ycsoaz.gov